

Pueblo

exchange

A Partnership for Safe Chemical Weapons Destruction

Spring 2006



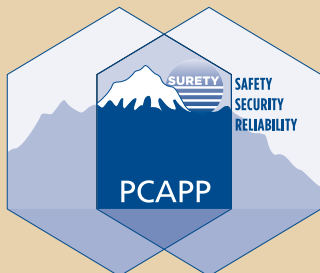
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Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant

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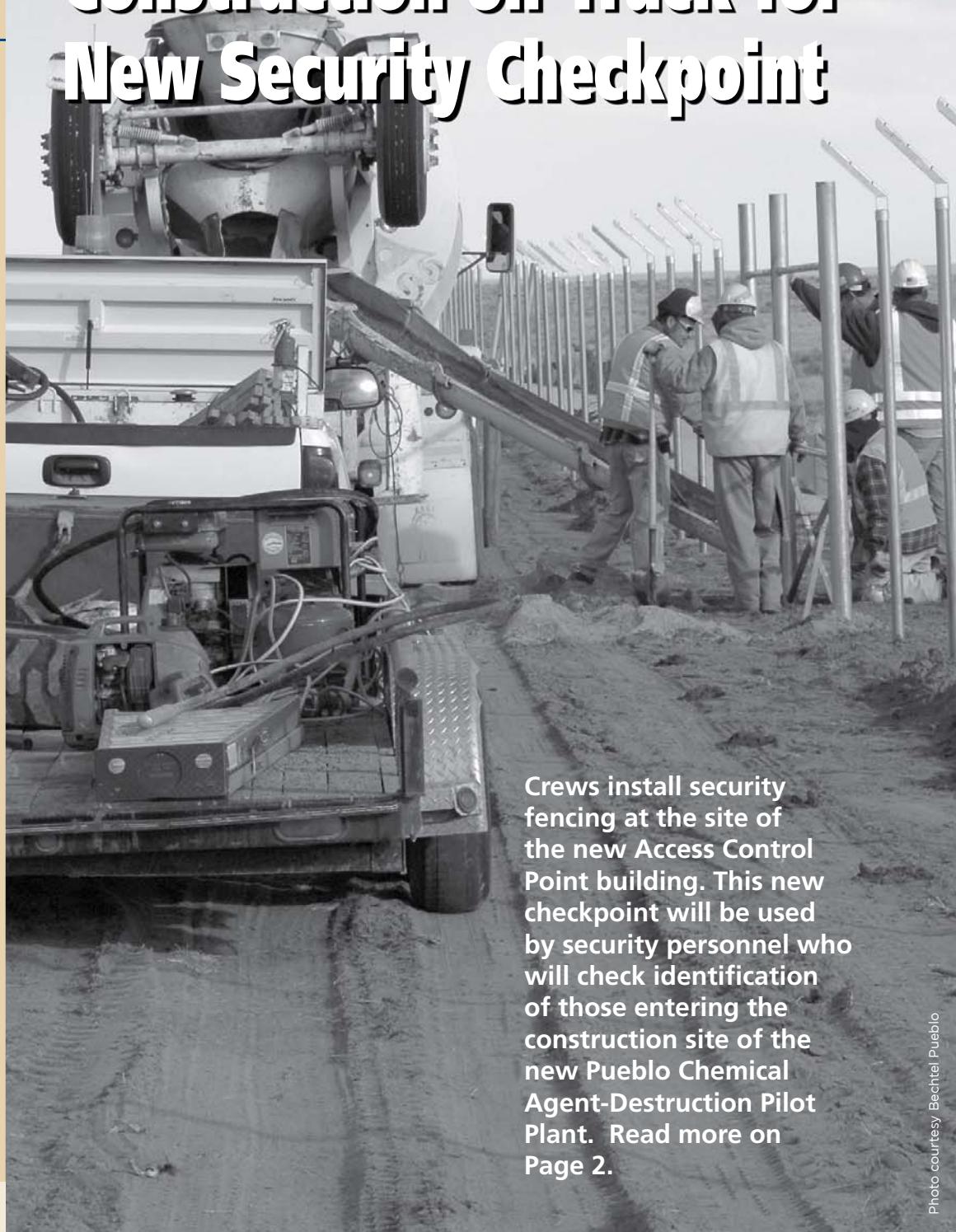
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Construction on Track for New Security Checkpoint



Crews install security fencing at the site of the new Access Control Point building. This new checkpoint will be used by security personnel who will check identification of those entering the construction site of the new Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant. Read more on Page 2.

Photo courtesy Bechtel Pueblo

Neighorly Communication Drives Collaboration

As construction nears for the Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (PCAPP), communication continues between the U.S. Army Pueblo Chemical Depot and neighboring organizations to address potential project impacts on local infrastructure.

“We feel it is important to not only get to know our neighbors and understand their missions, but bring to the forefront ways we

can work together, engineer to engineer, to solve problems, share technology and align safety procedures,” said PCAPP Site Project Manager Gary Anderson.

Lt. Col. John Riley, depot commander, noted, “Our relationship with neighboring businesses and citizens is extremely important. Because chemical weapons are stored at the depot, we take extra precautions to ensure the safety and protection of businesses and citizens.”

Earlier this year, leaders from the Transportation Technology Center, Inc. (TTCI), the depot, Bechtel National and the PCAPP project met to exchange project information and tour the center’s facilities. TTCI, located just north of the depot, tests trains from around the world for safety

and develops cutting-edge rail technologies. It also trains firemen and other hazardous materials workers in safety hazmat procedures.

The group discussed the possibilities of aligning resources, including sharing a natural gas line and acquiring fiber optic technology. The Defense Access Road from the Airport Industrial Park and the safety of all traveling on that road is a prime concern as well. Anderson; Lt. Col. Riley; Paul Henry, deputy project manager for the Bechtel Pueblo Team; and Roy Allen, president of TTCI, agreed to continue communication about these topics and any future issues that may arise.

“It’s important for us to have an informed work force regarding the chemical weapons destruction project,” said Ruben Pena, manager of business development for TTCI. “We look forward to continuing a neighborly relationship with the depot.”

Depot and PCAPP representatives also plan to meet with the plant managers of the Airport Industrial Park, another neighboring organization located west of the depot, in the near future.



Photo by outreach team

TTCI’s Ruben Pena (second from right) gives a tour of a train test center to (left to right) Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment Public Information Specialist Jeannine Natterman, Bechtel Pueblo Team Communications Manager John Schlatter and Bechtel Deputy Project Manager Paul Henry.

Contract Awarded, Construction Begins for Checkpoint

Construction crews began work in March on a security checkpoint positioned on the new “Northwest Passage” access road to the pilot plant construction site.

The checkpoint, known as the access control point, will be used by security forces of the U.S. Army Pueblo Chemical Depot to check identification badges and search vehicles entering the construction site. Features of the access control point include separate covered areas for searching both commercial

and personal vehicles, a gatehouse, guard booths, a 1,400-square-foot identification and registration office and an electronic security system. Construction for this effort is scheduled to be completed towards the end of this year.

The access control point is being constructed by Richard E. Gash Electric of Wheat Ridge, Colo., under a \$6 million subcontract with the Bechtel Pueblo Team.



Photo by Mark Hunter

Construction crews work on grading and contouring the road for the new access control point.

Improved Technology Connects Hundreds of Local Participants in Annual Emergency Response Exercise

A new mobile command center and enhanced video teleconferencing capabilities will improve communication during Pueblo County's Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program's (CSEPP) annual emergency response exercise on May 10.

Statewide, approximately 700 police officers, firefighters, hospital emergency room personnel, paramedics, communications personnel, volunteers and first responders from the Red Cross, Salvation Army and Pueblo schools, will participate in a mock scenario featuring the unlikely event of a chemical incident.

"This year, we will be able to send live video from the county's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to the three operation centers," said Steve Douglas, director of Pueblo County's Department of Emergency Management. "The new command center will feature state-of-the-art communications equipment and a satellite communication system that will allow us to send e-mail and pictures from the center to the EOCs," Douglas added.

Evaluators from other CSEPP sites (Kentucky, Indiana, Alabama, Arkansas, Oregon and Utah) will be on hand during Colorado's exercise to identify weaknesses in the system and make recommendations.

"Evaluators help us determine what technology, training and other systems need to be improved to be able to handle all



Volunteers learn emergency medical procedures in the event of a chemical incident at last year's CSEPP exercise.

Photo courtesy Pueblo County CSEPP

hazards preparedness," said Alicia Johnson, public information officer for Pueblo County's CSEPP. "Emergency responders work under high-pressure situations. This exercise tests their skills and gives us an opportunity to evaluate our system."

The Joint Information System will also be tested during the exercise to see if information is being disseminated accurately and efficiently to the public and the media. "We will be making sure that communication is as close to flawless as possible," added Johnson.

Command centers at the following locations will be activated during the exercise:

- Pueblo County's EOC, located in downtown Pueblo
- The State of Colorado's EOC in Centennial, just south of Denver
- U.S. Army Pueblo Chemical Depot's Operation Center
- The Joint Information Center at CSU-Pueblo

The emergency response exercise is a local, state and federal partnership with the goal of improving communication preparedness during an emergency. Over the past seven years, Pueblo has had five disaster declarations, including the Mason Fire in 2005; a winter storm in 2004; a drought in 2002; a hailstorm in 2000; and a flood in 1999.

For more information about the CSEPP exercise, please call (719) 583-6200.

Public Outreach Spans Farther Than West B Street

Informing the public and gathering feedback are key components of the chemical weapons destruction project in Pueblo. The hub of project information is located at 104 West B Street in the Pueblo Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office, but the scope of public outreach expands down several other avenues.

The Pueblo Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office

The Pueblo Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office team is your resource to answer questions such as:

Q: Where do I find information on the technology being used to destroy the chemical weapons stockpile?

Q: How do I request a presentation on the project for my business or organization?



Pueblo County CSEPP's Public Information Officer Alicia Johnson (left) joins PCAPP outreach team member Rosemary Patterson (second from right) at the Los Pobres Center in Avondale to reach out to the center's community members.

The outreach office team provides information about the project through many different venues including community events, public meetings, project presentations throughout the community, and individual interactions. The team can be reached at the outreach office, located at 104 West B Street in Pueblo, by phone at (719) 546-0400, or by e-mail at PuebloOutreach@bah.com.

Federal, State and Local Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Programs (CSEPP), Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

CSEPP, CDPHE and U.S. EPA interact with community members to answer questions like:

Q: What do I do in the case of a chemical incident?

Q: What monitoring requirements will the state have for plant emissions?

Individuals from these agencies work alongside outreach office staff to maximize public outreach efforts. Alicia Johnson, public information officer for the local CSEPP, frequently joins the outreach staff to educate the public on chemical incident emergency procedures. Jeannine Natterman, public information specialist for the CDPHE, joins the

Photo by outreach team

outreach staff at public events to gauge public interest and concerns. Johnson can be reached at (719) 583-6220; Natterman can be reached at 1-888-569-1831 ext. 3303; and Peggy Linn, community involvement coordinator for the U.S. EPA, can be reached at (303) 692-6622.

U.S. Army Pueblo Chemical Depot Public Affairs Office

The U.S. Army Pueblo Chemical Depot Public Affairs Office team can answer your depot-related questions, including:

Q: *How long have chemical weapons been safely stored at the U.S. Army Pueblo Chemical Depot?*

Q: *How can I learn more about environmental restoration at the depot?*

The depot public affairs office is a key player in coordinating public affairs activities and events related to the Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant mission with depot missions. This team informs the community and answers questions about the depot, including chemical weapons storage, environmental restoration, and emergency plans. They also provide advice and planning expertise in product development, security reviews and other joint efforts. For more information, please contact Marilyn Thompson, public affairs officer at the depot, at (719) 549-4135 or Lori Waters, public affairs specialist, at (719) 549-4118.



Marilyn Thompson,
public affairs officer,
U.S. Army Pueblo
Chemical Depot

Photo by outreach team



Lori Waters, public
affairs specialist, U.S.
Army Pueblo Chemical
Depot

Photo by outreach team

Bechtel Pueblo Team

The Bechtel Pueblo Team informs community members about such topics as:



John Schlatter, communications manager for
Bechtel Pueblo Team

Photo by outreach team

Q: *What are the hiring requirements to work for Bechtel?*

Q: *How many Bechtel subcontracts have been awarded to Colorado businesses?*

As the public's link to information on the plant's design, construction, testing, operations and closure, John Schlatter, Bechtel's communications manager, works with the outreach team on a number of efforts. He ensures public participation requirements of environmental permits are met, informs the community about employment and sub-contracting issues and integrates important messages into outreach materials to provide the public a comprehensive picture of the project. Contact Schlatter at (719) 546-0400, or visit him at the outreach office located at 104 West B Street in Pueblo.

Program Manager Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives (PMACWA) Public Affairs Office

The PMACWA public affairs office team can answer many project-related questions such as:

Q: *Why is PMACWA separate from the rest of the Army's chemical demilitarization program?*

Q: *How is community input incorporated into the program?*

The PMACWA program office is located at the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. Kathy DeWeese, the PMACWA public affairs officer, serves as the government spokesperson for the program and its chemical weapons destruction projects in Colorado and Kentucky. She oversees the contract teams associated with public outreach and involvement for both projects, and works closely with them to set communication goals and objectives, develop tools and products, and gather community feedback. DeWeese can be reached at (410) 436-3398.

Chemical weapons have been stored at the depot for over 50 years, and the destruction process involves many stages. By working together, these organizations will see to it that citizens are informed each step of the way.

Project on Track for Future Construction

Construction of the chemical weapons destruction pilot plant may begin as early as next year, provided that this fall, Congress approves President Bush's fiscal year 2007 budget request, which was submitted in February.

"This is good news about the project's future," said Gary Anderson, Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant site project manager. "Based on the proposed budget, we expect the pace of construction to pick up significantly later this year."

By the end of 2006, "vertical" construction is expected to begin. This construction will include laboratories, change rooms and other "non-process" ancillary facilities that will support future chemical agent destruction processes.

Prime contractor Bechtel has already started preparing the site. This includes construction of a 5.8 mile access road,



Gary Anderson (left), PCAPP site project manager, and Bob Kennemer (right), outreach office manager, met with Pam DiFatta, outreach director for U.S. Rep. John Salazar, to provide an update on project funding milestones.

Photo by outreach team

10 miles of fencing and an access control point. RBK Construction of Rye, Colo., is doing much of the work with a \$9.25 million subcontract. Gash Electric of Wheat Ridge, Colo., was awarded \$6 million to build the access control point. Bechtel plans to award subcontracts this summer

for "horizontal" construction such as site clearing, grading, underground utilities and additional roads.

To determine the schedule and funding plan for the final stage of construction, systemization, operations and closure, the government will conduct a Defense Acquisition Board (DAB) process throughout the summer. The DAB process will determine a new baseline of cost and schedule for the entire Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives program. This essentially sets the program up for a long-term funding cycle.

"The PCAPP project is currently adequately funded, and future funding looks promising. The construction work and funding are in sync with contracting, allowing us to progress uninterrupted. Our long-term funding scenario should be finalized by the DAB in September of this year," said Anderson.

Chemical Weapons Pilot Plant Construction Schedule

Construction Stage	Start Date	Type of Construction	Cost
Stage 1A	November 2005	Includes a 5.8 mile access road, 10 miles of fencing and an access control point	\$15.25 million
Stage 1B	Summer 2006	Horizontal construction such as site clearing, grading, underground utilities and additional roads	\$15-17 million
Stage 2	October 2006	Construction includes "non-process" facilities such as a laboratory, change rooms and above ground utilities	\$40-50 million
Stage 3	End of 2007	Construction of facilities that will destroy the chemical weapons	To Be Determined

Employee Corner

Bechtel Engineer Helps Hurricane Victims

...And comes home to Colorado in the process



Photo by Ron Girard

Steve Metzger volunteered to go to Mississippi to set up temporary housing last fall.

Steve Metzger saw, first-hand, the devastation left behind by Hurricane Katrina while volunteering to help shelter thousands of families left homeless in Mississippi.

Metzger, quality control inspector for the Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant project, left his former assignment in Washington to set up temporary housing for displaced families in Mississippi prior to coming

home to Colorado. Working under a Federal Emergency Management Agency contract, Bechtel employees had set up more than 8,900 trailers in only six weeks.

Said Metzger, "Even though we were working 16-18 hours each day, seven days a week, our motivation never ended. Seeing so many people living out of their cars, in tents or in shelters gave us the energy and spirit to keep going.

"We put trailers where we could tap into existing utilities," Metzger said. Trailers were first set up in recreational vehicle and mobile home parks. When space ran out, trailers were then established in city parks, football fields and on existing home sites. Eventually, trailers were being set up on parking lots or wherever space was available. In the final phases, land was developed as temporary recreational vehicle and mobile home parks.

Metzger left the Katrina Project last November, at which time Bechtel had more than 1,500 employees working in the state of Mississippi. They have now set up approximately 35,000 trailers, providing housing for nearly 100,000 people.

A high-school graduate from Montrose, located on Colorado's western slope, Metzger is happy to be back. "It feels great. I've been gone a while, so I forgot how nice it is here."

Ready or Not...Wards Begins New Chapter in Life



Photo by outreach team

Gary Anderson, PCAPP site project manager, adjusts the new red hat Jan Wards can wear now that she's officially retired from the government after 26 years of service.

It happened quickly. Once Jan Wards applied for early retirement from the Army Field Support Command, she wasn't sure how long she would continue in her position as the administrative contracting officer for the Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant project. But, on Feb. 21, she found out her position had indeed been selected for early retirement, and her life was about to change in less than a two-week timeframe.

"My husband and I haven't even had time to figure out what we're going to do," said Wards. She and her husband, Ray, live in Fowler, Colo. Ray moved to Colorado in 2003 and Wards joined her husband in 2004, after transferring to Pueblo from Tooele, Utah. Born and raised in Kansas, Wards, 58, has worked for the U.S. Army for 26 years.

One highlight of Ward's career was being present as the first GB rocket was cut at the Tooele Chemical Disposal Facility in Utah. "I was there for both the GB and VX campaigns," Wards said.

During her last week as the project's contracting officer, Wards said, "It's hard to leave the program. I still feel that I have something to contribute."

"Jan is a dynamic individual, and I can't say enough about her both personally and professionally," said Gary Anderson, PCAPP site project manager. "The PCAPP project wouldn't be where it is today without her. We are not just losing a terrific contracting officer, but a good friend, as well. I wish her only the best in her future endeavors."

Ellis Appointed as State's Health Director

Dennis Ellis was named executive director of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment by Gov. Bill Owens on Jan. 1.

The mission of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment is to protect public health and the environment. The department is authorized to enforce the Hazardous Waste Regulations in the State of Colorado, and oversees the design and development of the Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction pilot plant.

"We look forward to working with Mr. Ellis and the state health department to see that project permitting moves along and is consistent with the timeline for the destruction of the chemical weapons," said John Klomp, chairman of the Colorado Chemical Demilitarization Citizens'

Advisory Commission. It's important that we accomplish this mission while in total compliance with state laws."

Ellis is responsible for broad-based health and environmental protection programs, including bioterrorism, disease prevention, suicide and injury prevention, and emergency medical services. He manages a staff of 1,100 and a budget of over \$280 million.

Prior to joining the department, Ellis served as senior policy advisor to Gov. Owens. Before that position, he served as the



Program Manager for Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives Michael Parker and U.S. Army Pueblo Chemical Depot Commander, Lt. Col. John Riley, meet with Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment Executive Director Dennis Ellis in Denver on March 15.

Photo courtesy CDPHE

governor's liaison to the Western Governors Association Staff Council and served on the Clean and Diversified Energy Advisory Committee.

Pueblo Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office
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